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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,851	03/12/2004	Takashi Ono	19546.0044	6691

7590 01/13/2006

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, THU V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3661

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/798,851	ONO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thu Nguyen	3661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 March 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/8/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The amendment filed on October 24, 2005 has been entered. By this amendment, all claims 1-15 are now pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 6, 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Machida et al (US 2001/0027375) in view of Asai et al (US 6,421,606).

As per claim 1, 6, 11, Machida teaches a system for providing area information. The system comprises: a first information processing means 600 (fig.1) for transmitting an area specific information (para 0055); a second information processing device 100 (fig.1). The first information processing device comprises: a storage unit storing information specific information (road data, etc.) and the location information (latitude and longitude coordinate) (para 0038); an extraction unit extracting an item of area information specific to the mode of user transportation (para 0055); a transmission unit (para 0055); and the second information processing devices comprises a receiving unit for receiving the area information (para 0056). Machida does not explicitly disclose a second storage unit, an inference unit, and a destination estimation unit with

an extraction unit for extracting specific area information of a destination. However, Asai teaches a second storage unit that stores transportation and specific location information (col.5, lines 63-67; col.6, lines 1-4); an inference unit for inferring a mode of user transportation based on location information of a user (col.7, lines 14-23; col.17, lines 4-14), and extracting specific extracting specific area information of the destination (col.15, lines 17-21); Asai does not explicitly disclose destination estimation unit, however, since Asai teaches providing links between nodes (col.13, lines 43-67; col.15, lines 5-16), since the capability of retrieving the information at the immediate destination of a link the mobile device is on (col.15, lines 17-21; col.20, lines 41-49), and since it would have been well known that when a link on which a mobile device is on and the nodes between the links are known, the node at the end of the corresponding link (the destination on the link) is easily determined, Asai encompasses teaching determining the destination of the link on which the mobile device is on based on the current location of the mobile device. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the second storage unit, the inference unit, and the implied destination estimation unit with an extraction unit for extracting specific area information of a destination taught by Asai to the system taught by Machida in order to automatically determining the mode of transportation, and to automatically retrieve information at the coming nodes for providing navigation and necessary information at the coming nodes without asking the user to manually input the data. Further, with respect to claim 11, using computer readable medium for storing a computer algorithm for performing a method and

transmitting an area information from a station to a mobile device for displaying would have been well known.

3. Claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Machida et al (US 2001/0027375) in view of Asai et al (US 6,421,606) and further in view of Creemer (US 6,795,710).

As per claim 2-5, Creemer teaches inferring the mode of transportation based on historical data (col.10, lines 66-67; col.11, lines 1-18). Moreover storing schedule information in a mobile unit would have been well known; furthermore, it would have been known that past schedule information can be used as the historical data, using schedule information in the past in historical data would have been obvious.

As per claim 7-10, 12-15, refer to claims 2-5 above.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Moreover, it is noted that the claimed limitation does not disclose estimating the user's desired destination using the specified destination as asserted by applicant. Actually the assertion does not seem reasonable since when the specified destination is "specified" the step for estimating the destination does not seem necessary, since the destination has already been "specified" and therefore already been known. Since the specification page 9, last paragraph of

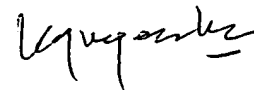
the present application teaches several destination points, it can be understood as the coming node along a link the second information processing device is on.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thu Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-6967. The examiner can normally be reached on T-F (7:30-6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on (571) 272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

June 25, 2005



**THU V. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**